

Claims:

1. An apparatus adapted to disseminate a volatile liquid into an atmosphere from a reservoir, dissemination being achieved by means of a transfer member in contact
5 with the liquid and a capillary member in liquid transfer contact with the transfer member, the capillary member comprising an evaporating surface bearing primary capillary channels, at least some of these primary capillary channels being intersected by at least one secondary capillary channel, the secondary capillary channel being substantially smaller in cross-sectional area than that of the primary
10 channels, such that liquid will flow in both primary and secondary channels.
2. An apparatus according to claim 1, in which the transfer member is a substantially cylindrical porous wick and the evaporating surface is a sheet extending
15 substantially perpendicularly from the wick, the sheet bearing capillary channels on at least one surface.
3. An apparatus according to claim 1, in which the transfer member is a capillary member that extends from the liquid to the evaporating surface.
- 20 4. An apparatus according to claim 3, in which the transfer member and the evaporating surface are formed in one piece.
5. An apparatus according to claim 1, in which the transfer member is a gap of capillary proportions formed at the junction of two flat surfaces.
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6. An apparatus according to claim 1, in which the evaporating surface comprises a number of sections bearing primary capillary channels, the boundaries where they meet providing the secondary channel or channels.
- 30 7. An apparatus according to claim 6, in which the primary capillary channels in each section are parallel and extend away from the transfer member, the assembled sheet having a "herringbone" pattern.

8. An apparatus according to claim 1, in which the primary capillary channels extend to the end of the sheet and are there blocked by a transverse barrier placed across the open channel ends, so as to define a secondary capillary channel that allows liquid to flow between channels.
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9. An apparatus according to claim 1, in which at least one secondary channel transfers the liquid from the transfer member to the primary channels.
10. A method of disseminating a volatile liquid to an atmosphere by evaporation from an evaporating surface, comprising conveying the liquid from a reservoir by means of a transfer means to the evaporating surface in liquid transfer contact therewith, the evaporating surface comprising primary capillary channels, at least some of these primary capillary channels being intersected by at least one secondary capillary channel, the secondary capillary channel being substantially smaller in cross-sectional area than that of the primary channels, such that liquid will flow in both
- 15 primary and secondary channels.